

Remarks

This amendment under 37 CFR 1.312 is a response to the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due electronically delivered with a Notification Date of February 20, 2008. The action establishes a shortened three month period for filing responses such as this one. This response is being filed well within the established period.

The Notice of Allowance was accompanied by an Examiner's Amendment that included certain amendments to then pending, independent claims 12, 15 and 18. The amendments accurately reflected the results of a telephone conference between Examiner Charles Anya and the undersigned, representing Applicants.

Claims 15-20 are being canceled from the application without prejudice to Applicants' rights to seek protection for the subject matter of those claims in a separate application. It is Applicants' intent to file a continuing application for that purpose. There will be no further discussion of claims 15-20 in this Amendment.

It is proposed that the Title and the Abstract of the Disclosure be changed to remain consistent with the scope of the claims.

Applicants have no comments as to claim 12, as amended in the Examiner's Amendment. As to claims 13 and 14, which depend either directly or indirectly from claim 12, Applicants are proposing two extremely minor changes, neither of which goes to the substance of the claims.

First, the spelling of the word "signaling" is corrected in its several occurrences in claim 14. Second, several occurrences of commas in both claims 13 and 14 have been changed to semicolons solely because it is believed that semicolons are more appropriate grammatically.

It is submitted that the change in Title, the cancellation of claims 15-20 and the correction of grammatical informalities in claims 13 and 14 do not do not provide any basis for withdrawing the application from allowance.

As the Examiner is undoubtedly already aware, MPEP 714.16(d) gives the primary examiner the authority to enter amendments submitted after Notice of Allowance, without forwarding to the supervisory patent examiner for approval, where those amendments relate to "formal matters the specification or drawing or formal matters in a claim without changing the scope thereof, or the cancellation of claims from the application".

The language quoted above from MPEP 714.16(d) accurately describes the proposed changes in this application.

Finally, it is again noted that this document includes an integrated petition to correct the spelling of the inventor's name to "Roberto Longobardi".

It is respectfully requested that this proposed Amendment be entered and that the application be allowed to continue to issue containing claims 12-14 as presented herein.

Respectfully Submitted,

/Gerald R. Woods/

Gerald R. Woods, Reg. 24,144
(919) 554-0993